

11/27/78

AG 060



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Montevideo, Uruguay
November 27, 1978

Mr. Yehudi Menuhin
2, The Grove
Highgate Village
London N6 6JX
England

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

Dear Mr. Menuhin:

Thank you for your letter of October 12 introducing Mr. Yves Haguenauer, who recently visited Montevideo on behalf of Mr. Miguel Angel Estrella.

Mr. and Mrs. Haguenauer arrived in Uruguay on October 27 and visited this Embassy during the initial days of their stay. My staff and I apprised them of the general situation here and of the facts of Mr. Estrella's case, insofar as we knew them.

After several days, it became apparent that permission to visit Mr. Estrella would not be obtained within the time originally allotted by Mr. and Mrs. Haguenauer for their trip. The Foreign Ministry, which was helpful throughout their visit, suggested that the Haguenauers delay their departure while Ministry officials continued their efforts to arrange for a visit. Finally, permission was granted.

On November 6, Mr. Haguenauer was accompanied to Libertad Prison by the Chief of the Foreign Ministry's Human Rights Office and by the French Consul. Unfortunately, Mrs. Haguenauer was not permitted to visit Mr. Estrella and the conditions of the limited conversation which took place were hardly ideal. However, Mr. Estrella affirmed that he was in good health, which seemed to be confirmed by his appearance and manner.

Mr. and Mrs. Haguenauer's plea for clemency or leniency has had no immediately apparent effect. Nonetheless, the

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Box 4975

favorable impact of their honest concern for Mr. Estrella and their forthright approach to the Uruguayan Government should not be underestimated. We shall continue to follow this case closely, in collaboration with other interested Embassies.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'L. Pezzullo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lawrence A. Pezzullo
American Ambassador